

April 11, 2022

CITY OF WASHBURN COMMON COUNCIL MEETING

5:30PM

Washburn City Hall & Remote Call-In

City Council Members:

Present, in-person:

Karen Spears-Novachek, Laura Tulowitzky, Tom Neimes, Carl Broberg, Mary McGrath, Dave Anderson, Jennifer Maziasz

Present, remote:

none

Municipal Personnel:

Present in-person:

Mayor Mary D. Motiff, City Administrator Scott J. Kluver, Assistant City Administrator Tony Janisch, Director of Public Works Gerry Schuette

Present, remote:

City Attorney Max Lindsey

Absent:

none

Call to Order - Meeting called to order at 5:30PM by Mayor Motiff. Roll call attendance depicted seven (7) of seven (7) members of the Common Council in attendance. Quorum of the Council recognized.

Approval of Minutes – City Council Meeting of March 14, 2022 - A motion was made by Novachek to approve the March 14, 2022 minutes of the City Council, second by Neimes. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Expenditures - A motion was made by Novachek to approve the monthly expenditures as reviewed, second by Tulowitzky. Motion carried unanimously via a roll-call vote.

Public Comment – Bob Mackreth, 500 W Woodland Dr., stated he lives next to the Hillside Tennis Courts and expressed his approval of expansion of those courts. He also expressed the need for accountability of how the parks gets run. And when there have been problems, it’s been difficult to find someone to deal with it; specifically speaking about the court’s flood lights which shine into his windows. Anne Marie Itzin, 520 W Woodland Dr., also lives next to Hillside Park and expressed concern about the lighting when new tennis courts are built. She also expressed concern that currently lights have remained on well past 10:00 pm, as well as events or dance parties occurring after this time. Ms. Itzin concluded with concern if the trees along the current courts would be removed. Jan Stauffer, 526 E 3rd St., lives next to the Eastside Tennis Courts and while not opposed to the Hillside expansion, she is concerned about the loss of the Eastside courts; they are well used but not maintained. Ms. Stauffer also shared concern if a multi-family housing unit was to be built at this space. The area is already heavily populated on a busy street and there is no parking. Too many people living in a small area. She further stated the Housing Authority is low-income not workforce housing, and that the drainage in not good. If an apartment was to be built there it may cause more issues with stormwater drainage. Ann Schram, 322 E 3rd St., stated that she is opposed to the expansion of Autumn Manor at that location. And she expects that Council makes no decision or commitment to move forward with Eastside Courts before talking and getting input from the surrounding neighbors. There is parking congestion year-round, if another building is added, where is the parking going to go. Kathryn Erickson, 126 W Bayfield St., that ATV are out driving down her alley and on Bayfield St. and there doesn’t seem to be any enforcement, and the same thing occurs with snowmobiles. Lou Ann Foss, 505 E 3rd St., stated she lives across the street from Eastside Courts and remembers when DuPont built them. The courts are used by the pickleball group, people come from all over the area to use the courts and the lights never bother her.

Mayoral Announcements, Proclamations, Appointments - The Mayor exuberantly stated, “Hooray, the referendum passed!” The community was very supportive, and the City will begin planning for a blended service for full-time and paid-on-call EMTs. The Mayor spoke next of the No Mow May initiative, to allow for bees and other pollinators. No appointments were made, but the Mayor stated that appointments to committee vacancies will occur at the Reorganization meeting. The Mayor concluded with the recognition of Dan Clark for his 24 years of service as the Director of Ambulance Service for the City.

Presentation of 2021 Library Report – Darrell Pendergrass, Presenter - Library Director Pendergrass shared the 2021 Annual Report with Council. Pendergrass explained how the number of checkouts along with the costs determined for each checkout, help determine the funding that will be received that following year. He is expecting more visitors in the next year, including the after-school crowd, as life settles back to pre-pandemic normality. Pendergrass continued that the tuck point project was completed in the past year and that bids came in lower than expected; so, the extra funding available will be used to replace the elevator. He included that roof repairs were made, and the interior ceiling work will still need to be done. Pendergrass concluded with his appreciation of City staff for helping with library's needs.

Discussion & Action on Library Board Request to “No Bid” for Library Lift Replacement – Tulowitzky moved to approve the Library Board's request for a No Bid for the Library Lift Replacement with a limit of \$45,000, seconded by Novachek. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Acceptance of Bid and Approval of Contract for Washburn Iron Works Sewer Relocation Project – The Mayor stated that since the last discussion, the cost for the water line to extend to the ballfields has increased. Park designated funds could be used fund this project, however there are already several projects identified for this funding. The Mayor added that ARPA funding could also be used for this project. Discussion occurred. McGrath moved to approve the bid and contract with Ritola, INC. for the Washburn Iron Works Sewer Relocation Project and to use the ARPA funding for the project, second by Maziasz. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Amendment to Agreement with Ayres Associates for Engineering Services Related to the Washburn Iron Works Sewer Relocation Project – Broberg moved to amend the agreement with Ayres Associates for engineering services for the Washburn Iron Works Sewer Relocation Project, second by Novachek. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Acceptance of Bid for Road Gravel – Broberg moved to accept the bid for road gravel from South Shore Sand & Gravel, seconded by Tulowitzky. Discussion occurring regarding type of gravel and alley conditions. Motion carried unanimously.

Reconsideration of Terrace Type Selection for Bayfield Street Project – Neimes moved to reconsider the Terrace Type approved last month, seconded by Novachek. Motion carried unanimously. The Mayor stated that since discussion occurred last month, new information was learned about the maintenance of colored and stamped concrete terraces. Neimes moved to have a plain concrete terrace with no stamping or color, second by Broberg. Maziasz asked if this was the only option for the terrace. Kluver answered that it was the only realistic option from a maintenance perspective. Anderson stated that terraces are going to need replacement anyway, regardless of if they were colored or stamped. Mike Stoffel, Ayres Associates, explained how the stamping and coloring of the concrete makes it inferior and adds to the maintenance, and that other communities are moving to fired brick terraces, but this could more than double the costs. Discussion continued, including other ways to beautify the downtown area. Anderson would like further discussion at the next council meeting regarding downtown beautification. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Ordinance 2022-03 to Establish Regulations of Outdoor Kitchens – McGrath moved to approve Ordinance 2022-03 to establish Outdoor Kitchen Regulations, seconded by Anderson. Motion carried unanimously. The Mayor asked for a moment of silence; the family that brought about this ordinance recently lost a child.

Discussion & Action on Approval of Certified Survey Map for the Creation of New Lots Within Existing Tax IDs 36422 and 32477 for Lot to be Sold to James Ledin – McGrath moved to approve the Certified Map and New Lots to be sold to James Ledin, seconded by Novachek. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Resolution #22-003 to Apply for Funding to Expand Hillside Tennis Court/Close Eastside Tennis Court – The Mayor stated that Eastside Tennis Courts are in disrepair, drainage is an issue, and the courts are out of specs with the US Tennis Association. She further stated that this is a

potential usable lot for housing, but that no plans are in place for development. Discussion occurred regarding the reasoning for expansion at Hillside Park. Tulowitzky moved to approve Resolution 22-003 and seek funding to expand Tennis Courts at Hillside Park and to delay actions for Eastside Courts until further discussion occurs, seconded by McGrath. Discussion continued regarding both courts and the maintenance and drainage at Eastside. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Resolution #22-002 for the Extension of TID #2 for One Year to Fund a Future Affordable Housing Project/OR for the Termination of TID #2 – Tulowitzky moved to extend TID #2 for one more year and approve Resolution 22-002, seconded by Neimes. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Renewal of Lease Agreement of Thompson’s West End Park Boat Ramp Area for North Coast Community Sailing- Jacob Kaiser, Petitioner – McGrath moved to renew the lease with North Coast Community Sailing, seconded by Maziasz. Jacob Kaiser, Director of the Bayfield Rec Center, stated they are look forward to a good season and that two of the weeks for sailing are already filled. Neimes stated concern over parking with boaters not being able to find parking as it’s a shared lot. Kaiser agreed to have staff and participants park in the lot west of the boat launch. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Special Event Request to Temporarily Restrict Parking on S. 2nd Ave W. and Harbor View Drive for North Coast Car Show and Use of Omaha Property for Parking on July 30, 2022 – Tammy DeMars, Petitioner – Novachek moved to approve the requests for the North Coast Car Show, seconded by McGrath. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Use of Thompson’s West End Park, Memorial Park, Wikdal Park, and the Coal Dock; Closure of Portions of N. 3rd Ave. West and S. 4th Avenue West; and Relaxation of Open Container and Noise Ordinances all at Certain Times during Brownstone Block Party Activities July 29 through July 31, 2022 – Washburn Area Chamber of Commerce, Petitioner – McGrath moved to approve the requests for the Brownstone Block Party, seconded by Novachek. Motion carried unanimously.

Alcohol Licensing Matters - Discussion on Potential Amendments to Beer Garden Ordinance – The Mayor stated that discussion occurred at Plan Commission meeting regarding the beer garden requirements, specifically for the 211 Martini Bar. The ordinance limits the outdoor consumption area to 50% of the indoor space, which this location has a small interior. Discussion continued. Maziasz suggested that the beer garden size be increased to 75% of the indoor space. Anderson asked for further discussion on open container laws within the City.

Alcohol Licensing Matters - Issuance of Class “B” (Beer) and “Class B” (Liquor) licenses to Superior Shores Eats, Inc dba Patsy’s Bar & Grill; at 328 W. Bayfield Street, Robert Stadler – Agent – Novachek moved to approve the Class “B” and “Class B” Alcohol Licenses to Superior Shores Eats, Inc. to be issued upon closure of sale, seconded by McGrath. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn – Mayor Motiff adjourned the meeting at 8:19PM.

Tony Janisch
Assistant City Administrator

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING 4:30pm

Committee Member Karen Spears-Novachek, Mary McGrath & Laura Tulowitzky reviewed monthly expenditure vouchers.